

## LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

## A LAND LIMITATION LAW.

ELDER EVANS RECOUNTS THE BLESSINGS WHICH WOULD FLOW THEREFROM.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Land limitation is the one thing needed for these United States. The man, woman or paper that will begin an agitation upon this important subject, and pursue it to a successful issue, will be as immortal as John Brown, whose soul is marching on toward the emancipation of wages slavery—hiring—which is much deeper rooted and far more universal than chattel slavery ever was on the face of this planet.

Vested Rights may not be touched. What can be done? When there is a will there is a way. Let land limitation be prospective. From January 1, 1884, no citizen of these United States, male or female, shall buy and become possessed of more than 160 acres of land. So fast as present landholders die, their estate shall pass to landless heirs, 160 acres each. The overplus shall go into the market and be sold within one year, each of the heirs receiving equal share of the proceeds. The operation of such a law would be like the dew on Mt. Hermon. The people would be continuously refreshed. Death would be a joyous master in the land. Let the funeral of a land monopolist become a festive occasion. But if death claimed a land monopolist who had voluntarily sold or given away the legal overplus of his estate, let the mourners honor him or her by creating some cheap but enduring memorial, such as planting some particular tree in a section of the burial-ground set apart by the town as a memorial graveyard, where none other should have the honor to be buried. How long would land monopolists run the risk of having the bells ring, cannons fired and bonfires lighted at their earthly exit from the scenes of their unpatriotic lives!

I think there is far more latent good in the hearts of "evit-doers" than philanthropists give them credit for. Witness the fact that some of the most efficient abolitionists were from the ranks of slaveholders, and that the Civil War itself was largely sustained by the self-sacrificing capitalists to whom undredited financial abilities it owed its origin.

The foundations of the earth are out of course. The system of government may be largely improved, but it can only come gradually. The blessings flowing from a land limitation law require an abler pen and a more vivid imagination than mine to depict. In every town, in each county of New York State, would begin a new life; young men and women, now landless and looking westward for a home, to be at last welcomed at the world's annual land lottery for the coveted prize; farms would make little dwellings with accessories; he built schools be better supplied with children and better reported, and soon those schools would become industrial schools which taught the elements of morality and health, while among them occurs included in education, Roads, lecture halls and meeting-houses would be easily reached by the people of the land, and the roads to town, of each district be largely consumed by their own people.

When so much good and no possible evil would follow from a land limitation law, why not we have it without regard to the end, that there may be nothing which not poor in the land! P. W. EVANS.  
Mt. Lebanon, N. Y., Dec. 16, 1883.

ABANDONED LANDS IN THE ADIRONDACKS.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: A Senator at Albany is reported in THE TRIBUNE as saying, while discussing the proposed Adirondack purchase, that the State is rapidly acquiring the lands in that region by confiscation for non-payment of taxes.

In a measure this is true, but the rapidity of the process depends wholly upon how rapidly the forests are cut off. The valuable timbered lands of this region are never abandoned. It is only after they have been rendered valueless for commercial purposes, transformed into treeless wastes of parched earth and rock, that they are acquired by the State.

Another feature of this wholesale forest spoliation is that not even the inhabitants of the country made rich by it. The majority of the owners of great tracts are non-residents, who have either themselves, or their predecessors have for them, a certain claim from the State, obtaining their power through political influence at ridiculous figures, when the Adirondack territory was little thought of, in years gone by.

These proprietors reap large harvests by letting out chipping logs to contractors by the mile, trees made ready for the market, the people to earn a supply of ready cash, which this system offers a chance of obtaining, and which the owners estates deny. More frequently than not, the contractors, who came to camp in the spring, find these hardy woodsmen scarcely more able to settle with their men, much less themselves, repaid for their venture. They are tenacious, too, and the rents demanded and won with the contractor's tool and poorly fitted to resume the plow upon the hillside farms. W. L. STONE, JR.  
Jersey City Heights, Jan. 5, 1884.

## WHAT A PROFESSOR OF BELLS SAYS.

From The Washington Star.  
"People used to play chimes with ropes," said the report, "but not with iron chains." And the Professor said, "That's a bell-ring, not a chime!" and the Professor said, "The chimes cannot play themselves." All they could do was to ring the chimes. The bells had to swing over and back, and of course that could not be done quickly. There are some words about playing the chimes. Now, you see I can phrase almost if not quite as well as on an organ," and the Professor struck on a stave or two of an air, which the students have learned, and then said, "I suppose that the chimes had settled down to silence for the rest of the day." There are only nine bells here, but the Professor said, "I am not a stickler for numbers, and one even now is an excellent player on three bells." That is to say, when they need most a husband and companion ship; when the peace of a secure home is most precious. Divorce laws are, from the stand-point of the law, something about chimes. Every body noticed the difference. This bell-ringer knew nothing about the lights and shades of the bells. Bells are made for music, and not for noise.

The reporter appreciating the romance of climbing into a bell on a chilly Christmas morning more than he dreaded the disappointment, finally accepted the invitation. Through the air there was a sound of bells, and one heard the voice of the chimes at the Centennial, a gentleman, an old English bell-ringer, to play the chimes for me. He really did not know what he was talking about, but he had a good deal of time.

In tuning them they were put out of tune. There, the ring of that bell has been cut or broken instead of being tapered on a fine edge. That was the reason he could not play them. All they could do was to ring the chimes. The bells had to swing over and back, and of course that could not be done quickly. There are some words about playing the chimes. Now, you see I can phrase almost if not quite as well as on an organ," and the Professor struck on a stave or two of an air, which the students have learned, and then said, "I suppose that the chimes had settled down to silence for the rest of the day." There are only nine bells here, but the Professor said, "I am not a stickler for numbers, and one even now is an excellent player on three bells."

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Divorce laws are, from the stand-point of the law, something about chimes. Every body noticed the difference. This bell-ringer knew nothing about the lights and shades of the bells. Bells are made for music, and not for noise.

For fidelity to the marriage vow, surely, and, perhaps, also for other grave offences; such as brutality or abandonment; but the facts should be attested by credible witnesses, and the people to earn a supply of ready cash, which this system offers a chance of obtaining, and which the owners estates deny. More frequently than not, the contractors, who came to camp in the spring, find these hardy woodsmen scarcely more able to settle with their men, much less themselves, repaid for their venture. They are tenacious, too, and the rents demanded and won with the contractor's tool and poorly fitted to resume the plow upon the hillside farms. W. L. STONE, JR.  
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THE GREENLY COLONY.  
To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I think you would greatly oblige many of your readers by publishing a short account of the Greely Expedition to the Arctic regions, giving the date and circumstances of its departure, the objects it was expected to accomplish, its whereabouts when last heard from, and the personnel of the expedition. The writer of this note would feel indebted to you for the information, and that of other TRIBUNE readers who may share his opinion.

CONSTANT READER.

New York, Jan. 3, 1884.

## REAL ESTATE.

By E. R. Raymond.  
One-story brick house, with lot, 10 x 125 Madison Ave., \$6,000. I am desirous of getting \$1,000 for it.

By E. B. Laddison & Co.  
13-story brick dwelling with lot, No. 105 Bedford, 92-5' x 125'-6", \$10,000.

RECORDED REAL ESTATE TRANSAKERS.  
NEW YORK CITY.

Grove St., s. e. lot 183, 24th Ward, 50x100; G. W. Moore, Adam and wife to Alvin A. McNamee.

3d fl., 125'-6" x 125'-6", \$10,000; Isaac Griggs, and wife to Wm. P. Allen.

12th st., s. e. lot 6 of site, 21, 7x50x70—1 story.

W. F. M. Marshall to Harriet E. Ogden.

12th st., s. e. lot 10, 7x50x70—1 story.

L. J. Palmer and wife to Mary H. Palmer.

Madison Ave., n. e. 1st fl. of lot 12, 100x125'-6", \$10,000.

69th st., n. e. 175'-6" x 68'-6", 60x100; Hugh Lamb to David Lamb.

Alex. C. and wife to Charles King.

A. A. W. s. e. 50 ft. of 12th st., 23x105—1 story.

Margareta Christy, s. e. lot 53; Catherine A. Higgins to Lorin J. and wife.

45th st., s. e. lot 10, 100x100—1 story.

Conter to Rachel W. Day.

7th Ave., s. e. fl. 1 of 130x45, 28x100—1 story.

5th Ave., s. e. 40 ft. of 14th st., 23x200; same to Wm. H. Arnoux.

15th st., s. e. 120x8—1 story, 105x115—Max. Lexington Ave., n. e. cor. 10th st., 100x100; J. H. Johnson, and wife to John Lang.

10th st., n. e. 100 ft. of 10th ave., 100x100; J. H. Johnson, and wife to John Lang.

10th st., n. e. 100 ft. of 10th ave., 100x100—1 story.

Times Huntman and wife to Margaret A. Birn.

Same property, s. e. lot 100, Michael Birn to Thomas Huntman.

Manhattan, 60-11, 100x100—1 story.

Same property, s. e. lot 100, Michael Birn to Maria.

12th st., 11x11, 100x100—1 story.

John C. Wilson and wife to John C. Wilson.

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